

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DIRECTLY SPEAKING

By William H. Spaulding, Director GSW/WD 2

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

By Dr. Bruce Maccabee 3

UPS AND DOWNS OF UFO EXPLANATIONS

By Dr. Bruce Maccabee 10

MAP OF SIGHTINGS 13

PROJECT UFO -- A REVIEW

By Diane Morang 14

REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS:

A SPECIAL REPORT TO THE GSW MEMBERSHIP

By W. Todd Zechel, Director of Research, GSW 14

MILITARY INSTALLATION OVERFLIGHTS BY UFOs

By Richard Gottlieb, Acting Editor 19

TALES OF A COMET -- REVIEW AND OPINIONS

By Rosemary Baum 24

SUGGESTED READING 28

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DIRECTLY SPEAKING

By William H. Spaulding
Director, GSW/WD

With the revelation of the hard information concerning the intelligence community's continual cover-up on the unidentified flying object phenomenon presented in the last GSW Bulletin, I am sure all of our readership will find this month's information even more interesting. During the past two years, GSW has been concentrating on the foul-up/cover-up syndrome by the government, mainly through our efforts with FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) and our Director of Research, Todd Zechel.

It is our main goal to continue with this effort and report as much of this material to the body politic and our membership. Recently, GSW has sued the CIA for pertinent documents and information related directly to the UFO subject. The price of this legal action is costing us thousands of dollars, however, we feel it is well worth the time and money.

Our Board of Directors additionally feels that the UFO problem will never be "solved" waiting for the government to release solid information, the grandiose dream of President Carter proclaiming the reality of the phenomenon, NASA or another scientific organization entering into a serious investigation, or the magical long-awaited-for sighting, well-documented, and offered as total proof. This is not going to happen; however, now all of us have a golden opportunity to make something happen immediately. We must continue with this law suit against the CIA. The government has many of the answers to the UFO mystery. It is now our goal to obtain this information rather than play a waiting game for the next big case.

As all of you know, GSW has never charged a single cent for membership dues and up to three years ago, we never charged anything for our bulletin. Now is the time all of us must ask ourselves if we really want to solve the UFO mystery. If you answer yes, then we must ask every member to donate five, ten, twenty dollars to help defer the expensive legal fees. Since GSW is a Not-for-Profit organization,*¹ all of your donations are tax deductible. We, in turn, promise to keep you informed with special brief newsletters and through the bulletin. We are, additionally, contemplating the possibility of a monthly six-to-eight page bulletin to help raise this funding. Quotes are at the printers and we will be making a decision very soon. Other fund-raising projects are planned to

obtain the necessary research monies for the law suit fees. Additionally, GSW has asked all UFO organizations, researchers, and individuals to forward their payments owed to GSW as soon as possible. Outstanding monies from these sources account to over three thousand dollars.

In the future, all photographic evaluation work and magazine articles will require a prepayment. As you can see, we are doing everything in our power to raise this much needed funding. The rest is up to all of our members and friends. Small donations are but a slight cost for possibly the most important event to ever happen in ufology. I strongly urge all members to write GSW and give us your ideas and opinions on this matter. In the past, we have relied heavily on all of you and everyone has graciously rallied to the cause. This is one of those important times and your cooperation is being solicited and genuinely appreciated.

*¹ Anyone requesting information on tax deductible donations will be sent all the necessary data for their own tax records.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

BY Dr. Bruce Maccabee
GSW Consultant

The order by J. Edgar Hoover to cease UFO investigation was apparently very effective for a year or so. In the portion of the FBI file which I obtained (presumably the "best" portion, as explained in the first paper of this series) there are only 4 documents of note that were filed between October 1, 1947 and Sept. 1, 1948. One of these is a single witness report that was written as a letter to a Senator who forwarded the letter to the FBI. The FBI, in turn, forwarded the letter to the Secretary of the Army. The date of the sighting, which was of a silvery "streak" that left a vapor trail that apparently traveled along with the object, was March 13, 1948.) the other three documents were correspondence within the FBI concerning an Air Force Directive from the Air Defense Command (ADC) in which was stated "Investigations will be coordinated with the FBI office concerned in accordance with instructions contained in letter, this headquarters, D 333.3 EX, subject, 'Cooperation of FBI with AAF on Investigation of Flying Disc Incidents', 3 Sept. 1947". (The headquarters referred to was ADC, Mitchel Air Force Base, New York.) As a result of the interoffice correspondence regarding this AF directive, Special Agent Reynolds of the Liaison Section of the FBI contacted Lt. Col. C. P. Martin of the Intelligence Division of the Air Force. Col. Martin stated that "apparently the Air Defense Command at Mitchel Field was not aware of the

fact that the Bureau was no longer conducting investigations regarding flying discs." He further stated that he would take the necessary actions to "straighten out the Air Defense Command as to the present policy regarding incidents of flying discs." The date of the ADC directive was 4 Feb. 1948.

Thus by the middle of 1948, as far as the FBI was concerned, UFO's were "gone", though not forgotten. There is no indication in the files that I have that anyone in the FBI felt that the FBI should re-enter the UFO arena, so presumably the FBI was perfectly content to let the Air Force handle the "flying discs". On the other hand, the Air Force had apparently forgotten that the FBI wished to remain uninvolved. In the middle of September the FBI received a request from the Air Materiel Command (AMC, MCIAXO-3) to analyze, in the FBI laboratory, a sample of soil said to have been "taken from a depression reputed to have been caused by a 'flying saucer' described as being approximately two feet in diameter and one foot thick which supposedly settled gently to the ground, rebounded to a height of twenty feet and then continued on its journey." On Oct. 7 J. E. Hoover sent back a letter stating that a microscopic analysis had failed to reveal anything unusual about the soil. In neither of the above documents was there any reference to the date or location of the sighting associated with the soil sample.

Near the end of December, 1948, the main FBI office received a teletype message in which it was stated that several people had discovered a "flying disc" at an airport in the Mojave Desert. The FBI agent subsequently interviewed the people involved and proved beyond all doubt what had already been stated in the original teletype, namely that the disc was a toy that had been abandoned. The only importance of this report is to indicate that despite Hoover's order, the agents would still investigate cases and send the information to the home office.

It is of interest to compare this "dry" period for the FBI (Oct. 1947 to Jan. 1949) with events that were occurring within the Air Force. For a reasonably detailed overview, see Jacobs' book, The UFO Controversy in America, pgs. 43-51. Although the influx of reports diminished greatly during the latter part of 1947, the interest on the part of the Air Force did not wane. Lt. Gen. Twining was apparently convinced that something real was being seen, and recommended a special group to study the phenomenon. Thus project Sign was "born" on Dec. 30, 1947 at what is now Wright-Patterson AFB. The Mantell case, in which a pilot crashed after chasing a "saucer," Jan. 7, 1948, gave an added impetus to the Sign investigation, since

it seemed to suggest that the discs were still flying around. According to Jacobs, the Sign investigators tried very diligently to discover whether or not the discs were of Soviet origin, but they failed at every turn. (This inability to obtain information indicating the discs were Russian provides a very interesting contrast to statements made in a paper in the FBI file which will be quoted shortly.) Finally, after the Chiles-Whitted sighting of July 24, 1948 (pilot, copilot, passenger, and perhaps ground observers saw glowing object with "windows" speed toward and past them), the Sign investigators apparently 'bit the bullet' and wrote an "estimate of the situation." The "estimate" was that UFOs were interplanetary vehicles. The "estimate" was passed through channels all the way up to Gen. Vandenburg, the Chief of Staff, who bounced it back for lack of proof. (See Jacobs, pg. 47 and especially the reference to Ruppelt given by Jacobs.) Subsequently the ETH (extra-terrestrial hypothesis) lost ground in favor of the "anything else but...." approach and from then on the Sign (and later Grudge and Blue Book) investigators favored the misidentification, hoax, hallucination hypotheses, although the secret weapon hypothesis was not thrown out.

Project Sign came to an end on Dec. 16, 1948, when its name was changed to Project Grudge. This change was noted in an FBI memorandum dated March 22, 1949. This is the first indication in the Bureau files (at least in the portion I have) that anything had changed as far as the Air Force investigation was concerned. I will refer to this memorandum again in its natural temporal sequence. But first, I wish to present a document which may be of profound importance in understanding why the Air Force continued its investigation, why the first two special UFO investigatory projects (Sign and Grudge) received a high security rating, and why UFO related information was classified even into the 1950's. (I don't think this document provides a reason for classification beyond the early fifties; I think AF records on UFO investigations were classified during the fifties and sixties, and even to the present time despite the end of Bluebook, because a "tradition" had been established during the late forties. As will be seen the reason for the establishment of the "tradition" was probably a fear of Soviet weapons.)

On Jan. 10, 1949, C. C. McSwain, the Special Agent in Charge in Knoxville, Tennessee, sent to the Director a message concerning "Flying Saucers Observed over Oak Ridge Area; Internal Security-X." The document began with a report of a sighting and photographs taken by a Mr. Presley in July of 1947. The existence of the sighting and photographs was made known to the FBI by a Mr. John(?) Rathman, Chief Investigator, Security Division, Atomic Energy Commission,

and by Mr. E. (name cannot be determined from the available records since it has been well covered up), Resident Engineer, Air Materiel Command, United States Army. Mr. E. was described as the "principle army technician at the Nuclear Energy for the Propulsion of Aircraft Research Center at Oak Ridge". The photographs mentioned were subsequently shown by analysis at Wright-Patterson AFB to have "images" which were, in fact, flaws in the negative, but the UFO report contained within the document is not important. What is important is the information passed on to the FBI, in the "utmost confidence," by Mr. E. In reading this, the reader should keep in mind what was stated in the preceding two paragraphs about the way the Project Sign investigators felt about UFO reports, and the reader should also keep in mind the statements by Gen. Schulgen that were made in the summer of 1947 (parts I and II of this series of papers). Leaving out the section on the UFO report of July 1947, I now present Mr. E's statement to the FBI, as copied by agent McSwain:

"Mr. E. predicated his remarks concerning 'flying saucers' or 'mystery missiles' by stating that he knew nothing of an official nature concerning them, other than the fact that they were believed by Air Force intelligence officials to be man-made missiles, rather than some natural phenomenon (underlining by present author). It was his further belief that a great deal of information had been compiled concerning these missiles by Air Force intelligence, and that research on the matter was being done extensively at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio (i.e., Wright-Patterson AFB -- note by this author). He also expressed the opinion that information at the disposal of the United States Army Air Force Intelligence had, in all probability been made available to the Bureau at Washington, D.C."

"Mr. E. then continued with his own ideas as to what might be the nature of these discs, which ideas he had formulated through review of those known facts and theoretical conjectures of himself and other scientists concerning the nature of flying discs and methods of propulsion for such type of aerial mechanism. According to him, flying discs have long been a theoretical possibility and, in fact, a possibility which would indicate one of the best means by which to break through the barriers of the supersonic area. Scientists have, for many years, been attempting to develop this kind of aircraft. (This author's note: see Jacobs for a reference to the Navy's "Flying Flapjack," a circular plane project that had been scrapped. This may be what Mr. E. was referring to.) Some experimentation has been done even in the United States, but insofar as is known in the United States at the present time, there have never

been any practical developments. As a second factor of consideration, Mr. E. stated that insofar as is known to U.S. scientists at this time, there is no chemical fuel which would make possible tremendous range of flight such as is ascribed to the reported "flying saucers." There is only one possible fuel which could be utilized which is in accord with present theory, and that is the utilization of atomic energy. (This author's note: at this point in the manuscript someone has written in the margin, "ATOMIC ENERGY MISSILE.") As further evidence of this possible means of propulsion, Mr. E. called attention to the vapor trail and gaseous corona described as a ball of fire, which he states might give some evidence to the fact that a radioactive field is present. He explained that the corona, or exhaust, has what appears to be layers of intensity which are circular rather than elongated and have no tendency to trail at the extremities, as would be the case if a normal type of exhaust from a combustion engine was being utilized in the propulsion of these aircraft. He continued that the vapor trail left by the missile appears to be one single line of uniform intensity which is extremely slow in dissipating. It was pointed out by him that in the case of a normal vapor trail being left by an aircraft moving at extremely high speeds or extremely high altitudes, the vapor trail usually will be from the wing tips and/or the exhaust of the engines, thus presenting several lines. But, in any event, even though only one line were visible, it would be rather quick to dissipate. This indicated to him that the vapor trail represents some atmospheric change along the path of the missile, which would not be the case were it any presently known type of aircraft." (Note by this author: it should be obvious to the reader that Mr. E., who worked in a research group that was trying to develop atomic powered planes, had spent a considerable amount of time studying the available information on exhaust trails from "flying saucers." Clearly Mr. E., and those who supported his work, did not ascribe to the belief that UFO reports were all hoaxes, delusions, and mis-identifications.)

"He continued that the information furnished by him should be treated with the utmost confidence, in that he was not speaking officially, but as a matter of personal cooperation. (Note: this line was underlined in pencil in the original text.) He stated that the matter was being given absolutely no dissemination by the Air Force or other military personnel, and that they had not deemed it advisable to advise him of all information pertaining to the missile (underlining by present author; note the implication of the existence of information that was "above top secret"; i.e., that required a specific need to know). He continued, however, that in his conversation with representatives at Wright Field and in reading reports returned to this country by foreign agents (underlining by present author), he

had gathered together certain information which might be of assistance in determining whether or not these so-called missiles were authentic, usable and of danger to the United States. First, he pointed out that knowledge of such a possible aircraft is not by any means new, it having been known as early as four years ago (underlining by present author; the approximate date referred to is 1944-1945) that some type of flying disc was being experimented with by the Russians. In addition thereto, he stated that more recent reports have been received from representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency in Southern Europe and Southern Asia to the effect that the Russians were experimenting with some type of radical aircraft or guided missile which could be dispatched for great distances out over the sea, made to turn in flight and return to the base from which it was launched (underlining by present author; the reader should note especially the reported ability of this "missile" to return to its base). This fact was extremely worthy of notice as experiments in this country have so far only developed to the point where we are concerned with delivering a missile to the required point of impact, and no consideration has been given to imparting to that missile the ability to return. Secondly, he stated that it is a known fact that the Russians are attempting to develop some type of nuclear energy, that they received a wealth of information concerning nuclear energy at the time of their occupation in Germany, and that they too have at their disposal the limited supply of the necessary fissionable materials. He stated that insofar as any opinion as to whether or not they have the ability and scientific knowledge to create such a nuclear powered missile is strictly a matter of conjecture, and that he would hesitate to make any definite statement. He pointed out, however, that the Russians have some very capable scientists in the field of atomic energy and that, in addition thereto, they took into their custody some of the most advanced and capable scientists of the German Nation."

"He also stated that a peculiar fact concerning missiles exists from reports he has received which is worthy of notice, and that is that from all appearances, they have usually approached the United States from a northerly direction and have been reported as returning in a northerly direction. None have ever been known to crash, collide or disintegrate over American soil, but it would appear that they come to the United States, cruise around, and go back over the North Pole. He states that insofar as is known to him, there has never been any piece of one recovered from any source whatever in order that analytical study of its nature could be made. Insofar as was known to him, the only actual material which would be of any value in determining its nature are telephoto photographs which are now in the possession of engineers at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio (underlining by the present author; said underlining is understandable in view of the repeated claim that there are no photographs of true UFOs). How detailed and how clear these photographs are, he was unable to state. He stated that one report has been received concerning a

collision of these missiles with another aircraft. This report, according to him, took place a short time prior to the report of numerous discs over the United States, and the report emanated from Czechoslovakia (underlining by present author; underlining is understandable in view of the claim that all reports following Kenneth Arnold's -June 24, 1947- were either attempts to become famous or were the result of suggestibility of the American people; said underlining is also understandable in view of the early claims by scientists that UFOs -"flying discs"- couldn't be real because the only reports were from the USA and one would expect them to be seen throughout the world.) This report was that a Czechoslovakian transport had collided with some unidentified missile while in mid-air over the ocean, and that said missile and said transport had been completely disintegrated without recovery of parts or survivors from either. It was the belief of Mr. E. that this undescribed missile was perhaps the same type of thing as the flying saucer. Another factor of notice, according to Mr. E. and as is portrayed by the photographs (underlining by present author; this may refer to the previously mentioned telephoto photographs), it would appear that the missiles can be maintained at a certain altitude above the contour of the ground (note by this author: this is "reminiscent" of our present day - 1970's - "cruise missiles"). This could be done by means of some type of radio altimeter or radio control. Naturally, the path of the missile is not in exact parallel to the contour, as its purported great speed would create considerable lag in its flight. Another factor worthy of note, according to Mr. E., is that it is normally reported as being seen at tremendously high altitudes and always traveling in a straight line. (Author's note: why were they never seen to turn in preparation for the journey back over the North Pole? Mr. E. seems to ignore this factor in his attempt to identify "saucers" with returnable Russian missiles.) He stated that he himself observed, on one occasion, a single vapor trail coming from some type of aircraft at unbelievably high altitude, which vapor trail extended from horizon to horizon in a perfectly straight line. He observed the vapor trail while it was in the process of formation and states that it was completely unlike any vapor trail he had ever observed before in all his experience with the air force. It was his judgement that whatever created the vapor trail was traveling at an unbelievably tremendous speed. This, together with reports that when close to the ground, the missile travels at speeds which make possible visual observation of its actions, would reflect that there is some ability to control the speed of these missiles as well as the altitude."

"Mr. E. concluded that this matter, while still purely a matter of guesswork, is nevertheless a source of great concern to the military establishment of this country. Great efforts have been expended by the service to determine just what the nature of these missiles might be and, upon so determining, decide whether or not an adequate defense can be established. He also stated that it

has given impetus to the research being done by the air force in their own program of nuclear energy for the propulsion of aircraft to develop guided missiles (underlining by present author; apparently the existence of "flying saucers" acted as an inspiration for the Air Force). He also advised that insofar as was known to him, there was absolutely no connection between these missiles and the fact that they were observed close to Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

* * *

UPS AND DOWNS OF UFO EXPLANATIONS

I have already presented (Parts I and II) the information which indicates that the AF initially took the view that "flying discs" were either Russian-made missiles or natural phenomena. The AF also allowed for the possibility that at least some of the UFO reports could have been generated by subversives. However, the thought that the whole UFO business could have resulted from Russian subversion did not last as long as the first flap in 1947. The failure to find any indications of internal subversion was one of the reasons the FBI got out of the UFO quagmire.

The opinion expressed by Mr. E. in the previously presented interview probably represented the general AF opinion as of 1949. However, as I have mentioned, during 1948 the Project Sign team apparently went through an "extraterrestrial period." Whether or not this possibility was ever imparted to the FBI cannot be determined from the papers I have. As I have pointed out, the "cupboard is bare" during 1948. However, the possibility of extraterrestrial intelligence having something to do with UFOs was mentioned several years later, as I will presently demonstrate.

In late 1948 and early 1949 "green fireballs" were observed over several military installations in the Western U. S. I will discuss the green fireball information obtained by the FBI later. However, suffice it to say at this point that the appearance of these phenomena at the beginning of Project Grudge gave the AF an added impetus to investigate UFO reports. No one denied the existence of the green fireballs, a fact which is in contrast to the repeated denials that actual dislike objects were the cause of flying saucer reports. A famous meteoricist who studied the initial green fireball reports, and who saw one himself (Dr. Lincoln LaPaz), argued quite strongly in his communications with the AF (specifically with Lt. Col. Doyle Rees, Commander of the 17th District of the OSI) that the green fireballs were not natural meteors, and that their characteristics were what might be expected of Russian missiles (where have we heard that before?). Thus during 1949 and into 1950 the AF had an acceptably real phenomenon on their hands which might have been related to military developments of the Russians. Now it is important to note that grouped with the fireball reports were also reports of a "disklike variation." Thus one might expect that the AF would continue to attribute discs to the Russians. However, just a year

later, in response to a request from Hoover to find out "Just what are the facts re 'flying saucers'?", an agent interviewed a Major----- and Lt. Col. ----- on March 28, 1950. The agent was told that the AF discontinued its intelligence project and announced the discontinuance to the press in Dec. 1949 (referring to the demise of Grudge) because "after two years of investigation over three-fourths of the incidents regarding flying saucers proved to be misidentifications of a wide variety of conventional items such as lighted weather balloons and other air-borne objects." Col.--- also stated that the AF was no longer actively investigating saucers. Thus, in early 1950, the FBI was to believe that there was nothing to flying saucer reports.

On the other hand, in May 1950 the FBI received a copy of an AF briefing in which the ETH was not specifically thrown out, but merely stated to be unprovable. In the same briefing, the continuation of reports was specifically attributed to mass hysteria and to suggestability of the population.

In Aug. 1950 the OSI informed the FBI that the continued appearance of "green fireballs, discs, and meteors" (underlining by the present author) caused them great concern.

On Oct. 9, 1950 the FBI was informed by the OSI that their "investigation of these phenomena fails to indicate that the sightings involved space ships or missiles from any other planet or country." (Note that the OSI continued the investigations of disc reports after Grudge ended, during the period when the AF officially had no special project for such studies.)

The portion of the FBI file which I obtained contains no inter-office memoranda (and only one UFO report) for 1951. Skipping then to 1952, on July 29 the FBI was informed that "the Air Force has failed to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion in its research regarding numerous reports of flying saucers and flying discs sighted throughout the United States." (Note that was the period of the 1952 flap. In 1952 the AF logged more reports -1501- than for any other year.) On the other hand, this particular document advised that "it is not entirely impossible that the objects sighted may possibly be ships from another planet such as Mars."

On Oct. 10, 1952, the FBI received a copy of a news release from Project Blue Book (specifically from Albert Chop) in which it is stated that approximately 20% of the sightings "cannot be associated with these familiar things."

On Oct. 27, 1952, a document was filed which indicates that the film taken by Delbert Newhouse had a tremendous impact on the Air Intelligence. After ruling out mundane explanations "completely," ATIC was "at a complete loss to explain this most recent creditable (sic) sighting." In the same document is the

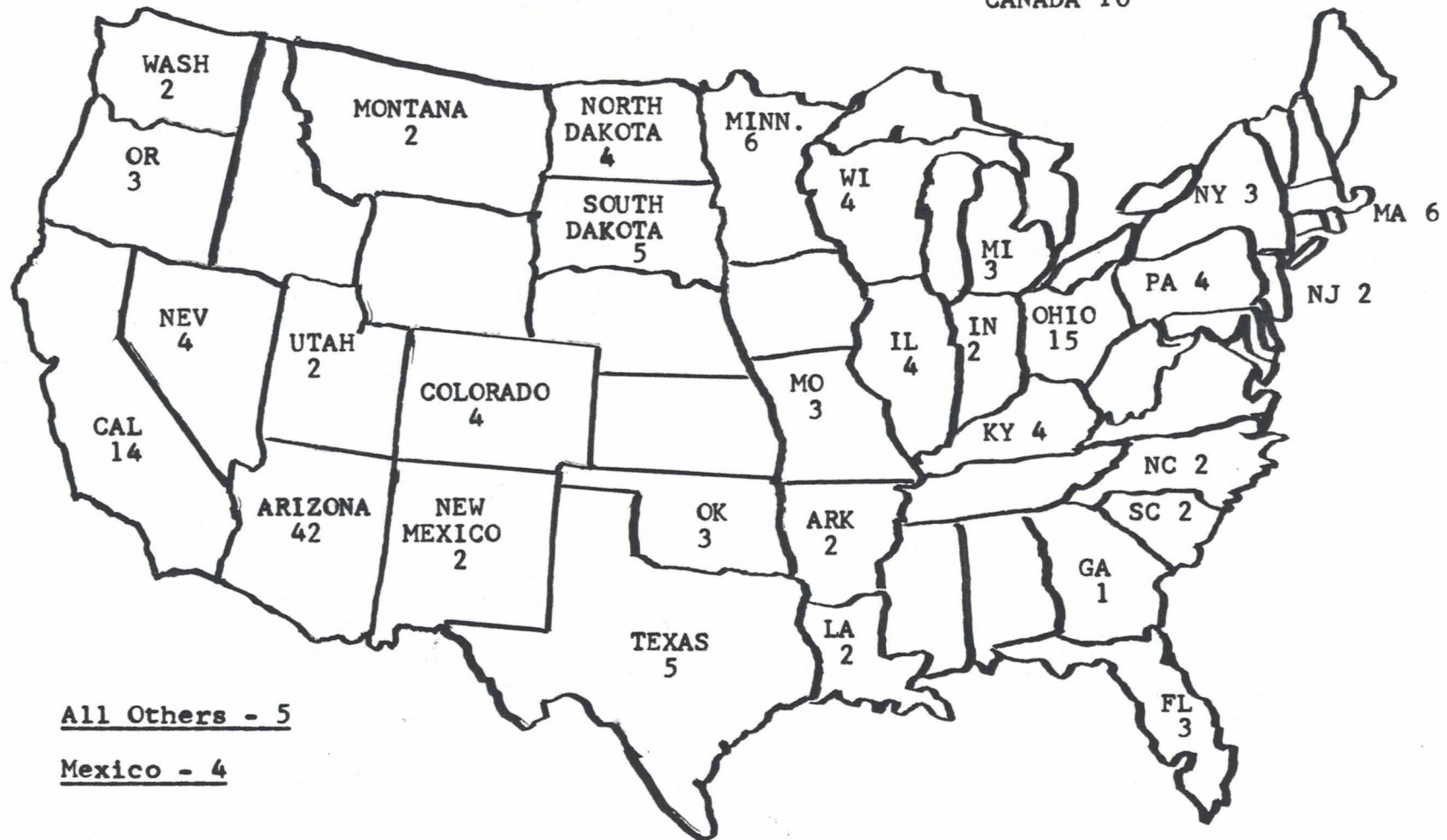
statement "Col.---advised that Air Intelligence still feels that the so-called flying discs are either optical illusions or atmospheric phenomena. He pointed out, however, that some Military officials are seriously considering the possibility of inter-planetary ships."

The last document which I have that gives any indication of the AF attitude toward flying saucers was written in Nov. 1957. (There is a complete lack of interoffice memoranda from Oct. 27, 1952 to Nov. 12, 1957, and there were only 5 good reports and 3 poor reports from Nov. 1952 through Dec. 1957 in the portion of the file that I have received.) The Nov. 1957 memorandum mentions the UFOs seen during the "Sputnik Flap" and states that "In view of the number of these reports...(an agent determined from the AF)...that all the cases mentioned above have for all practical purposes been resolved as being nonauthentic or there was no basis for the sightings." Although this statement is not an explicit statement of opinion, it is consistent with the standard public AF attitude that there was nothing to UFO reports.

It appears from the information in the FBI file that the AF attitude changed considerably during the first five or six years of the phenomenon. However, from other sources we know that after the Robertson Panel recommendations of January 1953 the official AF attitude toward UFO reports crystallized around the "nothing to it" attitude. Any reports left unidentified were explained away as not having sufficient information, even though that was, at best, a weak explanation in many unidentified cases. As far as the FBI is concerned, there is no document in the portion of the file that I have which expresses an opinion on the reality or nature of the "flying discs," other than the Sept. 25, 1947 document which contains the conclusion that none of the disc reports was related to subversion.

This section of this series on the FBI UFO documents has presented information obtained from the AF regarding official and unofficial opinions as to the nature of the UFO phenomenon. In the next section I will present some of the interesting details of the information supplied by the AF and a listing of reports in the FBI files up through 1950.

CANADA 10



MAP OF SIGHTINGS

SIGHTINGS LOGGED IN BY GSW - EAST & WEST. SIGHTINGS DO NOT CONSTITUTE REAL "UFOs"

1. 132 called-in reports of UFOs. (181 Total sightings)
2. 22 reports (hard copy) received.
3. Unknown rate (%) to date: December 1977 through March 1978 data, 5.82%
4. Arizona numbers do not include the Phoenix based advertisement airplane.

THESE SIGHTINGS COVER THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 1977 THROUGH MARCH 1978.

31 sightings attributed to planets, bright stars and other related celestial phenomenon.

PROJECT UFO -- A Review

By Diane Morang

Project UFO premiered. Not much more could be said from a UFOlogy standpoint. The half-million-dollar-per-episode budgeted TV show produced by Jack Webb may be great for the dilettante ufology enthusiast, but it offers little for the scientifically-oriented, serious-minded investigator.

What is presented are, in fact, modernized and Hollywoodized versions of old Project Blue Book cases, edited, up-dated and glossed over studio style. Two all-American, warm-hearted, well-scrubbed, empathizing, considerate Air Force officials (We'd like to believe the government UFO investigators were really like that.) thread their way through the series which will probably go the way of an anthology -- if it stays on the air in a tough time slot and with already poor ratings.

Jack Webb has done his job; the screen writers have done theirs -- and the researchers haven't done theirs. (The pilot film was a 1963 episode which was brought forward into the contemporary time period -- or so they would have us think. This may have been done for convenience sake as planes/cars, etc. of that year may now be hard to come by.) A considerable amount of budget money has been handed over to the special effects people, and justly so, and they have done a professional job, although we can't expect to get what Star Wars and Close Encounters offered us. We may not get what Star Trek offered us, either, although Star Trek was fantasy science fiction and when it was ushered into TV in the 1960's, had a then-incredible budget of \$200,000.00 per episode.

The powers that be (at the studio) may be well-intentioned, giving a glossy, slick, Hollywood-style show to a ufology-hungry public, or they may just be jumping on the fastbuck bandwagon. The show ends on a "make up your own mind as to what really happened" attitude which is mentally frustrating.

MOST IMPORTANTLY what Project UFO does NOT do is satiate the serious, scientifically-oriented investigators and the honestly-interested public. Sorry, boys, but it's back to the drawing board. Give us a UFO show with more facts, and definitely with more substance.

REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS:

A SPECIAL REPORT TO THE GSW MEMBERSHIP

By W. Todd Zechel
Director of Research

"SIGHTINGS OF UNEXPLAINED OBJECTS AT GREAT ALTITUDES AND TRAVELLING AT HIGH SPEEDS IN THE VICINITY OF MAJOR U.S. DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS ARE OF SUCH NATURE THAT THEY ARE NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO NATURAL

PHENOMENA OR KNOWN TYPES OF AERIAL VEHICLES." (Excerpt from a memo on UFOs written by Dr. Marshall Chadwell, Director of Scientific Intelligence, CIA, Dec. 8, 1952. The memo was addressed to Gen. Walter Smith, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.)

"IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT CIA SURVEILLANCE OF SUBJECT MATTER ('Flying Saucers') ...BE CONTINUED. IT IS STRONGLY URGED, HOWEVER, THAT NO INDICATION OF CIA INTEREST OR CONCERN REACH THE PRESS OR PUBLIC, IN VIEW OF THEIR PROBABLE ALARMIST TENDENCIES TO ACCEPT SUCH INTEREST AS 'CONFIRMATORY' OF THE SOUNDNESS OF 'UNPUBLISHED FACTS' IN THE HANDS OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT." (Excerpt from a memo on "Flying Saucers" originated by Edward Tauss, Acting Chief, Weapons & Equipment Division, CIA, August 1, 1952.)

"IN THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS A NUMBER OF RADAR AND VISUAL SIGHTINGS OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. ALTHOUGH THIS OFFICE HAS MAINTAINED A CONTINUING REVIEW OF SUCH REPUTED SIGHTINGS DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, A SPECIAL STUDY GROUP HAS BEEN FORMED TO REVIEW THIS SUBJECT TO DATE. O/CI WILL PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY WITH O/SI AND A REPORT SHOULD BE READY ABOUT 15 AUGUST." (A memorandum for the Deputy Director of Scientific Intelligence, CIA, dated July 29, 1952.) Emphasis added.

"SIGHTINGS OF UFOs REPORTED AT LOS ALAMOS AND OAK RIDGE, AT A TIME WHEN THE BACKGROUND RADIATION COUNT HAS RISEN INEXPLICITLY. HERE WE RUN OUT OF EVEN 'BLUE YONDER' EXPLANATIONS THAT MIGHT BE TENABLE, AND, WE STILL ARE LEFT WITH NUMEROUS OF INCREDIBLE REPORTS FROM CREDIBLE OBSERVERS." (Excerpt from a report submitted to General Walter B. Smith - Director of Central Intelligence, by Fred Durant, OSI, CIA, August 15, 1952.)

The preceding four paragraphs are quoted from CIA documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. Much credit for obtaining these documents should go to Brad Sparks, an associate of mine and a member of APRO. I emphasized the statement made by Ralph Clark of the Office of Scientific Intelligence because it directly contradicts the statements currently being made by spokesmen for the CIA.

In another recently obtained document, Dr. Chadwell, then Asst. Director of Scientific Intelligence, recommended that: "CIA, under assigned responsibilities, and in cooperation with the Psychological Strategy Board, immediately investigate possible offensive or defensive utilization of the phenomenon for psychological warfare purposes both for and against the United States, advising those agencies charged with U.S. internal security of any pertinent findings affecting their areas of responsibility."

Chadwell's report, which outlined various intelligence tasks and research programs for dealing with the UFO "problem," concluded with the following recommendation: "On the basis of these programs of research, CIA develop and recommend for adaption by the

National Security Council a policy of public information which will minimize the risk of panic." (Emphasis added)

In reviewing the 100 or so CIA documents pertaining to UFOs which were only recently obtained, it becomes clear that by 1952 the Agency had attached an extreme importance to the subject and considered additional research a top priority. Also made clear is the fact that most officers in the Office of Scientific Intelligence had concluded UFOs are extraterrestrial spacecraft. At the same time, however, it was decided these conclusions could not be made public--at least not until the Agency found a way to deal with psychological implications.

So, the CIA set off on a 25-year campaign of debunking and disinformation, all designed to mask its grave concern and research involvement with UFOs. Civilian UFO organizations were put under surveillance by both the Air Force and the CIA; culminating, eventually, with covert penetrations of the most influential of these groups by CIA wreckers and propagandists.

A good example of how the CIA wrecked a UFO group is what happened to the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP). Founded by Townsend Brown in October of 1956, NICAP was soon penetrated by CIA operatives Bernard J. O. Carvalho and Nicolas de Rochefort. Carvalho, who became chairman of the membership subcommittee, was a former cut-out man for such CIA proprietaries as the Fairway Corporation, a charter airline owned by the CIA. Claiming to be Portuguese by birth, Carvalho worked in the CIA's covert operations division from 1947 to 1952, when he then began "fronting" for CIA proprietaries in and around Washington, D.C.

Nicolas de Rochefort also claimed to be foreign-born, purporting to be a native of St. Petersburg, Russia. He became entangled with the OSS during World War II, while serving with the Free French. Later, he emigrated to the U. S. and ended up performing special missions for the CIA in psychological warfare, which included writing scripts for Voice of America broadcasts. He also became, in December of 1956, Executive Vice Chairman of NICAP.

Unfortunately for the CIA, Townsend Brown's inability to make NICAP solvent forced his resignation in January of 1957, and Maj. (Ret.) Donald Keyhoe was brought in to keep the ship afloat. Keyhoe immediately began cleaning house; among the first to go were the two CIA operatives, who subsequently disappeared from sight.

Over the next ten years, Keyhoe built NICAP into a viable and vital organization. With the aid of such notables as Richard Hall, Larry Bryant and Don Berliner, Keyhoe's NICAP became the most effective investigating agency in the history of ufology. By 1966, NICAP had pressured the government into funding a non-military investigation of UFOs. Unfortunately, the non-military group was headed by someone who had previously worked on highly classified

projects for the **government**, Dr. Edward U. Condon. As history now records, Condon turned his project into a worse sham than Project Blue Book.

As NICAP's influence rose, and Keyhoe began to turn his accusations of government cover-up away from the Air Force and toward the CIA, he became a severe threat to the Agency's secret UFO projects. Earlier, in 1960, Keyhoe had been approached by a recently-retired Air Force Colonel, Joseph Bryan, III. When Bryan began pumping Keyhoe about his "best" or "secret" cases, the Major immediately suspected an Air Force attempt to penetrate NICAP. Telling Bryan what his suspicions were, Keyhoe refused to impart to the Colonel any "confidential" information. Shortly thereafter, Bryan wrote Keyhoe a letter in which he denounced the Air Force's UFO policy and gave Keyhoe permission to quote from it.

Well, Bryan's denunciation was accepted as proof by Keyhoe that the Colonel was genuinely interested in supporting NICAP's cause. Almost immediately after receipt of the letter, Keyhoe invited Bryan to become a member of the NICAP Board of Governors; Bryan accepted. This turned out to be the most tragic mistake of Keyhoe's distinguished career.

According to extremely reliable sources, Bryan did penetrate NICAP for covert and subversive purposes--but not in behalf of the Air Force. Yeah, you guessed it--the CIA. Bryan, according to sources, was employed by the CIA from 1947 to 1952; a period, incidentally, that Bryan never fully accounts for in his resumes. What's more, Bryan was not just your ordinary CIA employee; rather, as described by the sources, he was the founder and original director of the CIA's Psychological Warfare section! That's right, the same section that spawned Carvalho and de Rochefort.

In talking with former NICAP employees, it is revealed that Bryan was the only board member who showed a continuing interest in the day-to-day activities of the group. Keyhoe, in fact, states that Bryan was always after him to see his most confidential reports and documents. And the trusting Keyhoe showed them to him. It's a good bet that everything NICAP did, and all the classified documents which were leaked to Keyhoe by sympathetic military officers, were eventually compromised. In other words, NICAP had no secrets; they were all betrayed by Bryan. This would have put the CIA in a position to silence or transfer "the leakers," and enable the Agency to head-off any NICAP efforts which would have ultimately exposed the CIA's primary role in the UFO cover-up.

But the worst was yet to come. In 1969, shortly before the Condon Committee was to release its report, a coup was staged at NICAP and Keyhoe was overthrown. Ostensibly, the reason Keyhoe was ousted was because of his inability to manage NICAP's budget; the organization was floundering financially, and this was blamed on Keyhoe. Ironically, the main force behind the revolt was none other than

Colonel Bryan. An emergency session of the Board of Governors was held and the Major was voted out. What made Keyhoe's forced retirement all the more suspicious, however, was the fact Bryan called the New York Times before the board meeting and announced the NICAP head's "retirement."

The effect of the forced retirement was to pull Keyhoe's speaker's platform right out from under him. This just happened to occur at the same time as the release of the Condon Report--preventing Keyhoe from having a position from which to launch his vociferous criticism of the Committee's conclusions. And with Stuart Nixon taking over the reins of NICAP and Jack Acuff waiting in the wings, there was virtually no criticism of the report emanating from the group's headquarters. What was worse, soon after Keyhoe's ouster, full-time employees--people who had given their sweat and blood in order to make NICAP what it was--were discharged.

Keyhoe's heretofore trusted friend, Bryan, even tried to get the Major removed from the Board of Governors, but when Keyhoe threatened to press for payment of the \$75,000 he claimed NICAP owed him, he was allowed to stay on.

In the meantime, Stuart Nixon, Keyhoe's successor, was being manipulated by CIA agents who operated under the umbrella of the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers, a Washington-based, non-profit group headed by Jack Acuff. In January of 1970, Acuff--with the support of Nixon and Bryan--was installed as President of NICAP. Acuff trimmed NICAP's operations to such an extent that its sub-committees--the group's tremendous investigating and reporting network--were dissolved. In the years to follow, NICAP's membership continued to decline, until it leveled off at around 3,000. These poor souls pay \$12 a year for the privilege of belonging; in return, they receive the monthly bulletin, UFO Investigator. Acuff's annual budget is around \$50,000--nearly the same as Keyhoe's average expenditures. However, unlike Keyhoe, Acuff's version of NICAP has no full-time employees, except for secretaries, and has virtually no investigating or reporting capabilities.

But the most striking difference between Acuff and Keyhoe is the public posture of the organization. In the intervening years from 1970 to 1977, Acuff was conspicuously silent about the government's handling of UFOs. Moreover, his public remarks on the subject were timid and pointless, often sounding more like a spokesman for the government than a so-called ufologist.

It's doubtful that Acuff has any connection with the CIA, despite the seeming indications. But one fact does seem evident: the CIA and Bryan couldn't have found a better man for the job.

* * *

It's been eight long years since the CIA wrecked NICAP. In the meantime, the government cover-up has solidified its grip on the

best UFO evidence. Films, photographs, documents and physical evidence lie buried in the dung-heap of confusion and suppression. But...wait, don't give up hope. There is an organization emerging into prominence, taking over where Keyhoe's NICAP left off. That group is, of course, Ground Saucer Watch.

GSW has succeeded where NICAP failed. Unlike NICAP, however, GSW is taking the case for UFOs into court, where it will be won; not Congress, where NICAP twice lost. A lawsuit has already been filed against the CIA, and more are on the way. Documents proving low-altitude penetrations over SAC air bases during a heretofore undisclosed flap of sightings in 1975 have been obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. Military and intelligence officials have been tracked down, interviewed and induced to sign affidavits regarding their roles in the suppression of UFO evidence. (Recently, a source of mine--a retired Air Force Intelligence officer--consented to be interviewed on Phoenix TV regarding his role in a 1957 incident involving a collision between a UFO and a USAF F-86D.)

There is no doubt the coming months will be filled with battles being waged with the CIA and other government agencies in order to obtain the evidence they're withholding. Hopefully, most of these battles will be waged in court, where I am certain we will prevail. But we cannot succeed without your support--moral and financial. The Ralph Mayher suit has already incurred legal fees in excess of \$3,000. In order to continue this fight and put enough pressure on government agencies to force them to start telling the truth regarding UFOs, we need substantial donations from each and every member. Moreover, we need help from the general public. After all, these efforts will benefit all of mankind, in that the evidence we obtain will once and for all allow us to determine the origin and nature of UFOs. I'll get you the truth; you get me the funds.

MILITARY INSTALLATION OVERFLIGHTS BY UFOs

By Richard Gottlieb, Acting Editor

GSW is becoming well-known for its efforts to break through the government's coverup. One of the goals of the organization is to expose the truly significant UFO data whose existence is still today publicly denied. Our lawsuit has already established the existence of a coverup, and is now in the process of testing the legality. Yet many persons question the existence, extent and methods used by the government in covering up UFO information (two catch-all terms). They want to know exactly who is covering up what, why they are doing it, how they can accomplish this, etc.

Thanks to the efforts of adamant investigators like GSW Director of Research Todd Zechel, answers to these questions are beginning to be found. An excellent example of coverup was discovered to have occurred in late 1975 at numerous different U. S. & Canadian

Air Force bases. On 10/4/77 a response to Zechel's FOIA request for info on a series of UFO sightings at or near these bases was mailed. The following excerpts from NORAD Command Director's Log (1975), and the 24th NORAD Region Senior Director's Log (Malmstrom AFB, Montana) were included:

29 Oct/0630Z: Command Director called by Air Force Operations Center concerning an unknown helicopter landing in the munitions storage area at Loring AFB, Maine. Apparently this was the second night in a row for this occurrence. There was also an indication, but not confirmed, that Canadian bases had been overflown by a helicopter.

31 Oct/0445Z: Report from Wurtsmith AFB through Air Force Ops. Center - incident at 0355Z. Helicopter hovered over SAC weapons storage area then departed area. Tanker flying at 2700 feet made both visual sighting & radar skin paint. Tracked object 35NM SE over Lake Huron where contact was lost.

1 Nov/0920Z: Received, as info, message from Loring AFB, Maine, citing probable helicopter overflight of base.

8 Nov/0753Z: 24th NORAD Region unknown track J330, heading SSW, 12000 feet. 1 to 7 objects, 46.46N 109.23W. Two F-106 scrambled out of Great Falls at 0745Z. SAC reported visual sighting from Sabotage Alert Teams (SAT) K1, K3, L1 and L6 (lights and jet sounds). Weather section states no anomalous propagation or northern lights. 0835Z SAC SAT Teams K3 and L4 report visual, K3 reports target at 300 feet altitude and L4 reports target at 5 miles. Contact lost at 0820Z. F-106s returned to base at 0850Z with negative results. 0905Z Great Falls radar search and height had intermittent contact. 0910Z SAC teams again had visual (Site C-1, 10 miles SE Stanford, Montana). 0920Z SAC CP reported that when F-106s were in area, targets would turn out lights, and when F-106s left, targets would turn lights on. F-106s never gained visual or radar contact at anytime due to terrain clearance. This same type of activity has been reported in the Malmstrom (AFB) area for several days although previous to tonight no unknowns were declared. The track will be carried as a remaining unknown.

7 Nov 75 (1035Z): Received a call from the 341st Strategic Air Command Post (SAC CP), saying that the following missile locations reported seeing a large red to orange to yellow object: M-1, L-3, LIMA and L-6. The general object location would be 10 miles south of Moore, Montana, and 20 miles east of Buffalo, Montana. Commander and Deputy for Operations (DO) informed.

7 Nov 75 (1203Z): SAC advised that the LCF at Harlowton, Montana, observed an object which emitted a light which illuminated the site driveway.

7 Nov 75 (1319Z): SAC advised K-1 says very bright object to their east is now southeast of them and they are looking at it with 10 x 50 binoculars. Object seems to have lights (several) on it, but no distinct pattern. The orange/gold object overhead also has small lights on it. SAC also advises female civilian reports having seen an object bearing south from her position six miles west of Lewistown.

7 Nov 75 (1327Z): L-1 reports that the object to their northeast seems to be issuing a black object from it, tubular in shape. In all this time, surveillance has not been able to detect any sort of track except for known traffic.

7 Nov 75 (1355Z): K-1 and L-1 report that as the sun rises, so do the objects they have visual.

7 Nov 75 (1429Z): From SAC CP: As the sun rose, the UFOs disappeared. Commander and DO notified.

8 Nov 75 (0635Z): A security camper team at K-4 reported UFO with white lights, one red light 50 yards behind white light. Personnel at K-1 seeing same object.

8 Nov 75 (0645Z): Height personnel picked up objects 10-13,000 feet, Track J 330, EKLB 0648, 18 Knots, 9,500 feet. Objects as many as 7, as few as 2 aircraft.

8 Nov 75 (0753Z): J330 unknown 0753. Stationary/7 knots/12,000. One (varies 7 objects). None, no possibility, EKLB 3746, 2 F-106, GTF, SCR 0754. NCOC notified.

8 Nov 75 (0820Z): Lost radar contact, fighters broken off at 0825, looking in area of J331 (another height finder contact).

8 Nov 75 (0905Z): From SAC CP: L-sites had fighters and objects; fighters did not get down to objects.

8 Nov 75 (0915Z): From SAC CP: From 4 different points: Observed objects and fighters; when fighters arrived in the area, the lights went out; when fighters departed, the lights came back on; to NCOC.

8 Nov 75 (0953Z): From SAC CP: L-5 reported object increased in speed - high velocity, raised in altitude and now cannot tell the object from the stars. To NCOC.

8 Nov 75 (1105Z): From SAC CP: E-1 reported a bright white light (site is approximately 60 nautical miles north of Lewiston). NCOC notified.

9 Nov 75 (0305Z): SAC CP called and advised SAC crews at Sites L-1, L-6 and M-1 observing UFO. Object yellowish bright round light 20 miles north of Harlowton, 2 to 4,000 feet.

9 Nov 75 (0320Z): SAC CP reports UFO 20 miles southeast of Lewistown, orange white disc object. 24th NORAD Region surveillance checking area. Surveillance unable to get height check. FAA Watch Supervisor reported he had 5 air carriers vicinity of UFO, United Flight 157 reported seeing meteor, "arc welder's blue" in color. SAC CP advised, sites still report seeing object stationary.

9 Nov 75 (0348Z): SAC CP confirms. L-1 sees object, a mobile security team has been directed to get closer and report.

9 Nov 75 (0629Z): SAC CP advises UFO sighting reported around 0305Z. Cancelled the flight security team from site L-1. Checked area and all secure, no more sightings.

10 Nov 75 (0215Z): Received a call from SAC CP. Report UFO sighting from site K-1 around Harlowton area. Surveillance checking area with height finder.

10 Nov 75 (0153Z): Surveillance report unable to locate track that would correlate with UFO sighted by K-1.

10 Nov 75 (1125Z): UFO sighting reported by Minot Air Force Station, a bright star-like object in the west, moving east, about the size of a car. First seen approximately 1015Z. Approximately 1120Z, the object passed over the radar station, 1,000 feet to 2,000 feet high, no noise heard. 3 people from the site or local area saw the object. NCOC notified.

As fantastic as it may seem that numerous unknown aircraft could penetrate restricted air zones all over the country, maneuver near munitions and missile storage areas often without even being detected by radar, and successfully avoid interception, these are only a few of the now declassified sightings at Air Force Bases in late 1975. Other sightings occurred at Falconbridge, Ontario; Selfridge ANGB, Michigan; Wurtsmith AFB; and others. Further the response to Zechel's request acknowledged that the Air Force was withholding a NORAD document containing other (presumably more sensitive) UFO cases, claiming it is exempt from FOIA disclosure. One would think if there was no coverup, these reports would eventually filter to the people via the media without first having to be pried out of the Air Force's hands by way of FOIA requests. However in this instance the coverup was far more extensive.

As local media queries regarding the sightings began, a policy decision was made in the upper echelon of the Air Force (or above?) to put a lid on the matter--fast! A memo was sent to affected AFBs, reading as follows:

We believe, and OASD/DA concurs, that unless there is evidence which links sightings or unless media queries link sightings, queries can best be handled individually

at the source and as questions arise. Responses should be direct, forthright and emphasize that the action taken was in response to an isolated or specific incident(emphasis added). IOs should keep all levels and appropriate MAJCOMS informed of questions asked, media affiliations and responses given.

The plan was to pretend each incident was unique, and to hope no one put any two incidents together. Apparently the plan worked far better than expected.

Finally, this affair represents one clear cut example of government coverup. We know what happened, who covered the story up, how they accomplished it, and we can even guess why (failure to do so would constitute a sorry admission of the Air Force's inability to deal with crises of this nature). We must wonder how many other incidents have been withheld from the public. Hopefully we will be a motivating force in bringing this cloak and dagger era to an end.

TALES OF A COMET
Review and Opinions

by Rosemary Baum

Based on recently announced results from the latest Soviet expedition, a new theory on the origins of the Tunguska, Siberia, explosion of 1908 has surfaced, capturing the hearts of traditional scientists.

James E. Oberg, contributing editor of Astronomy magazine, wrote and published in the December 12, 1977, issue, a sketchy history of the Tunguska explosion, bringing into battle the most controversial UFO versus the most "conventional" comet.

The article states the nine most "important factors" which earmark the Tunguska blast as an unusual mystery:

- "1) The force of the explosion was equal to a modern thermonuclear bomb.
- 2) The explosion occurred at an altitude of several miles above the ground.
- 3) The explosion resulted in a special combination of thermal pulse, light flash, shock wave and magnetic flux.
- 4) The blasted region of the forest had an irregular shape, in a pattern vaguely similar to the outline of a butterfly.
- 5) Eyewitnesses related to the incident as a glowing fireball. Many of the eyewitnesses's accounts are contradictory unless we assume a change in course of the object.
- 6) For several days after the event (and before news of it had reached the rest of the world, the skies over Europe were brightly lit throughout the night.
- 7) Natives of the region have a highly developed folklore of the event, including tales of (and explanations for) strange sickness among the reindeer.
- 8) Decades later, specialists noticed an accelerated growth in the region immediately surrounding the blast.
- 9) There have been conflicting reports of traces of radioactivity both at the site and elsewhere around the world, in the tree growth rings of 1909 (the year following the blast.)."

As a sounding board against which to rebound the comet theory, Mr. Oberg uses only Thomas Atkins's and John Baxter's book The Fire Came By (Doubleday '76) as the only theory presented up until now which managed to answer a majority of the mysterious questions raised by Tunguska.

Until the present, the only comet meteor material found at Tunguska had been metallic spherules of meteoric origin, but in 1977, the Soviets found microscopic particles of a new, relatively unknown substance called Carbonaceous Chondrite which they believe to exist by the thousands of tons at the blast site. The reason this substance was not known before is due to its fragile structure. (It has been likened in strength to frozen cotton candy.) Meteoric studies at the Antarctic where special traps are set on glaciers to capture "star stones," reveal that only 10% of the meteors that hit earth are the stone or stony-iron type, the majority being Carbonaceous Chondrite.

To refute "proponents of the spaceship hypothesis," that comet/meteors could not cause the physical and visual effects reported at Tunguska, Mr. Oberg reports the discovery, via triangulation, of photographed meteor trails that "The brightest and most explosive meteors almost always disintegrated totally in flight; further, their orbits were those characteristic of comets not of the stony and stony-iron type meteorites."

Atkins and Baxter propose that the object changed course, basing their conclusion predominantly on eyewitness reports. Mr. Oberg, though he is not consistent in his disparagement of eyewitnesses, says that a "reasonably consistent ballistic trajectory can be reconstructed," which places the object on a "collision course from high above the ecliptic plane -- just like a comet." Being as this also places the object on the sunward side of the Earth, it would refute another spaceship proponent claim that a comet would have been previously observed.

Development of sensitive microbarographs to monitor for illegal nuclear bomb tests has recorded a number of high altitude explosions worldwide; some like the 1965 Revelstoke Canada atmospheric explosion measuring in the tens of kiloton range, approximately that of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs.

An attempt to satisfy the claim that only a nuclear blast would cause the luminous clouds noticed worldwide after Tunguska is explained by a probable comet tail tens of thousands of miles long, in conjunction with the "white night" phenomenon that occurs during midsummer in northern Europe.

Though Mr. Oberg tends to call eyewitnesses hazy in regards to reported trajectory, their ability improves considerably in retrospect to the blast length which he reports, according to eyewitnesses, was closer to a kinetic explosion rather than thermonuclear and that the mushroom cloud, magnetic pulses, etc. can be duplicated chemically.

As far as radioactivity is concerned, it seems the only person ever to report positive testing results was Aleksey Zolotov, but he withdrew his claim when the radioisotopes were traced to nearby nuclear tests. Zolotov tried again, meeting with success, but other specialists felt either his methods or results were untrustworthy.

In The Fire Came By, Atkins and Baxter quote nuclear chemist and Nobel Prize winner Willard Libby who developed carbon 14 dating, as further proving by his independent search for radioisotopes in 1965 that a nuclear explosion had occurred. Libby did find unusually high levels of fallout in tree ring growth of 1909; however, the detected amounts were almost 1/7 larger than the blast would have generated. "Libby affirmed that his experiment had positively excluded the possibility of a ten or larger megaton blast having occurred anywhere in the northern hemisphere anytime in 1908." So the radiation was determined to be random flux.

The accelerated growth of the year is not attributed to radiation but to the burning following the blast.

Dynamic specialists in Moscow recreated the explosion chemically using a matchstick forest with explosives strung on a string above, successfully duplicating the butterfly-like effect at Tunguska.

The stories the natives have developed about sickness among the reindeer and people after the blast seem to be imagination, for as Mr. Oberg reports: "No trace of reindeer sickness can be found, nor have any decedents of the natives shown any sign of the radiation-induced diseases and mutations made familiar to modern science by the Hiroshima and Nagasaki explosions."

Mr. Oberg concludes that for the first time since the event, there appear to be no loose ends in the scientific theory. Mr. Oberg's article does not hold up under comparison and intensive scrutiny with The Fire Came By, however, for there are many oversights apparent for those who wish to read both.

I must say that Astronomy and, in particular, James E. Oberg, is fair to both sides of the argument. It's a shame that sensationalism, has such a stranglehold on UFO's. For as a result of sensationalism, "conventional" scientists will not venture within

eyeball distance of the UFO possibility of anything, therefore depriving this spectrum of desperately needed investigation to the positive. Excitement-hungry media, with a gentle push from a publicity-fearful military, has set scientific ufology back farther than Cro Magnon. As Mr. Oberg so aptly stated in his closing paragraph: "From the earliest days when men looked at the sky with curiosity, beholding its amazing and often frightening phenomena, some theorists have always explained everything by saying that the gods caused it or, (in terms of today's mythology) extraterrestrial visitors caused it. As a scientific theory such suggestions are currently both irrefutable and dead ended, and lead only to blind faith and frustrated curiosity." You could say traditional science goes on "blind faith" because not enough scientific effort has gone into the extraterrestrial possibility either. As to "frustrated curiosity," what is it to science but a goal? Man sets his own mental limits.

Persons who wish to report a UFO sighting or obtain information regarding UFO's in the Ohio area, may contact "The Ohio UFO Investigators League" at the following locations:

HEADQUARTERS

1139 Senate Dr.
Fairfield, Ohio 45014
Phone: (513) 867-0896
Public Relations:
Geri Wilhelm
Executive Director:
Charles J. Wilhelm

SPRINGFIELD AREA

135 W. Harding Rd.
Springfield, Ohio 45504
Phone: (513) 399-6020
Jack Rockel

DAYTON AREA

2790 Prentice St.
Dayton, Ohio 45420
Phone: (513) 298-6717 (Home)
(513) 253-3982 (Work)
Investigations Director:
Richard Hoffman

Your name and address held confidential upon request by "OUFOIL".

Epilogue: Col. Joseph Bryan III

In a recent interview, Col. (Ret.) Bryan, when confronted with the facts, admitted he had worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. He denied having been the original chief of the CIA's Political and Psychological Warfare Staff, but would not specifically deny his work involved psychological warfare. Col. Bryan also declined to specify the time period of his CIA employment, but said my estimate of 1948 to 1952 was "roughly" correct.

However, there is some evidence that Bryan was still working for the CIA as late as 1959, and perhaps beyond that. Bryan denies there was any connection between his CIA work and his involvement with NICAP, stating, "I had long resigned from CIA before I met Don Keyhoe." When asked if he had been approached by anyone from the CIA while he was actively involved with NICAP, Bryan replied, "No, not to my knowledge. There may have been covert agents there, but I didn't realize their associations." Later in the interview, Bryan exclaims, when I ask him if he knew Carvalho and de Rochefort, "Penetrated! What do you want to penetrate NICAP for? There was nothing to penetrate about-- it was all overt, the whole thing."

Bryan did admit to having written a letter to Donald Keyhoe denouncing the Air Force's position on UFOs and having an active interest in the day-to-day events at NICAP, but denies he played any central role in Keyhoe's removal from his position as NICAP

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President. This denial is totally implausible, in that numerous NICAP people have described Bryan's central involvement in the Keyhoe ouster.

As I attempted to pin him down about his CIA work, Bryan remarked, "But I wish this would not have to come out, because some of the things I had to do there were covert, and I've never gone on public record as having done this." I then asked if he would consider my revealing his covert employment as "highly embarrassing." Bryan replied, "No, not highly embarrassing; I would just prefer that it wouldn't. It wouldn't embarrass me. It might embarrass CIA."

I will have to agree with the Colonel on that point. This will definitely embarrass the CIA. But, this article will be the least of their embarrassments. Unless the CIA starts coming clean about its involvement with UFOs, they are going to see bombs like this one being dropped on them on a regular basis.

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